

**Week 8 Weekly Newsletter**

5th November 2020

Dear Little Owls Families,

We hope you had a lovely half term break and enjoyed pumpkin-related celebrations, even though it was very different this year.  It was lovely to see everyone back this week looking happy and refreshed!

**This week…**

We Explored light!  Our Little Owls spent lots of time at our foil-lined tray (with a hood at one end to create a dark corner) using tiny torches to shine light through coloured filter paper, leaves and other materials that intrigued them.

We Embraced water!  Following the heavy rainstorms, we made the most of the giant puddle which spanned the entire entrance to the lawn. We placed our outdoor tables in the middle of it, along with a tray of assorted containers and bottles; the children naturally scooped up puddle water and practised their pouring, squirting and squeezing skills. Great for strengthening those hand muscles!   
   
We continued the water theme inside, turning a wooden boat into a pirate ship. A beautiful fabric created billowing waves and we sang about 'The Day we went to Sea'.    
   
The children shared stories about their Halloween experiences and helped join in with the 'whoosh' part, in our themed book of the week 'Room on the Broom'. We continued with our Autumn songs which the children are singing so well. We have postponed the firepit plan for a future week. 

**Next week...**

We will be celebrating Diwali, the Hindu festival of Light. We will read information and story books about Diwali. We will also tell the traditional tale of Rama and Sita using puppets.

We will be using clay and modelling how to make a 'diva' clay lamp to children have the chance to make their own simple clay dish on which to place a tea light if they wish. We will be making onion bhajis with Sobia to experience different cultural foods.

Sobia will also bring henna to decorate the children's hands with beautiful Rangoli patterns, or they can explore these patterns using rice and chalk. Please complete the Microsoft form to give your permission for henna by **MONDAY 9TH NOVEMBER**by clicking here: [Henna Microsoft Form](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=X8O9PEr8l06rrK6LiTM4XoWbmnXUPKdEtp-YnQlDggFURElJRE5VR01FQUVYQzUwTEtBMjhMODVQUy4u)

**Birthdays**

On Monday we celebrated Alice’s 3rd birthday and Big Owl Charlotte’s birthday, their birthdays were during half term.

**Early Years Funding**

Reminder!  The deadline date to apply for extended hours and be entitled in Spring 2021, is December 31st. Please reconfirm your details with HMRC when required to keep your code valid.

**Important information**

**Coronavirus**

In line with Haslingfield school and to reduce the spread of coronavirus, we request that all parent/carers of Little Owls wear face masks when dropping off and collecting your child.  Please adhere to social distancing and use the hand gel provided on arrival – Thank you.

Please also be aware that during this lockdown individuals can meet one other person from another household outside in a public place and that **children under school age do not count** towards the two-person limit.

**Door Bell**

Please note that there is now a door bell for Little Owls, it is located on the closest entrance to the gate.

**Dates for your Diary**

**Saturday 28th November:**Methodist Church Christmas Fayre – **postponed until further notice**

**Last Day of Term:**Wednesday 16th December 2020

Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you next week.

Best wishes from

Abby, Caroline, Charlotte, Julie, Laura, Lucy and Sobia

The Little Owls Team

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